

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2366

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1048

EXDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR MACOMBER (EUR/SE)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ECEVIT, BULENT) OEXC, TU

SUBJ: VISIT TO U.S. BY BULENT ECEVIT

REF: STATE 027340

1. REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER
HALUK ULMAN DISCUSSED WITH US ON FEBRUARY 7 ECEVIT'S RESPONSE TO
THE TENTATIVE PROGRAM (REFTEL) THAT YOU HAD OUTLINED TO ECEVIT
PRIOR TO YOUR DEPARTURE. ULMAN SAID ECEVIT WOULD LIKE TO ADVANCE THE
SCHEDULE AND
PROPOSED FOLLOWING:
MARCH 3, 4, AND 5: WASHINGTON.
MARCH 6: NORTH CAROLINA
MARCH 7: SINCE THIS IS A SUNDAY, ECEVIT ENVISAGES SPENDING IT
RESTING.
MARCH 8: CHICAGO (ECEVIT HAS ALREADY RECEIVED SPEAKING
INVITATION FROM DR. FRANK TACHAU AT AMEGYFAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE
FOR TURKEY).
MARCH 9-10: NEW YORK AREA, INCLUDING PRINCETON.

2. ECEVIT'S REASON FOR REQUESTING THIS CHANGE, ULMAN SAID,
IS THAT PARLIAMENT WILL RECESS FOR TEN DAYS FOLLOWING BUDGET VOTE
DUE END OF FEBRUARY. ECEVIT WANTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT RECESS
AND BE PRESENT IN ANKARA FOR WHAT HE EXPECTS WILL BE VERY ACTIVE
PERIOD WHEN PARLIAMENT RESUMES SESSIONS O/A MARCH 11.

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3. ULMAN THEN RECALLED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER, WHEN FIRST DISCUSSING THIS VISIT WITH ECEVIT LAST MAY, HAD OBSERVED THAT TURKEY HAD NO ONE IN THE U.S. TO EXPLAIN ITS CASE, AND THAT ECEVIT COULD EXPLAIN THE TURKISH POSITION BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE. TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS COMBINATION OF A UNIQUE RESORCE AND AN UNUSAUAL OPPORTUNITY, ULMAN SAID, ECEVIT MUST SEE "THE RIGHT PEOPLE WHO LEAD OPINION". ULMAN ASKED THAT THOSE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS KEEP THIS IN MIND.

4. AS REGARDS ECEVIT'S CONTACTS WITH ACADEMIC WORLD, ULMAN REQUESTED THAT DEPARTMENT GET IN TOUCH WITH DR. FRANK TACHAU AT CHICAGO AND ASK HIM TO ADVISE AND ASSIST AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IN ARRANGEMENTS AND IN SPREADING WORD AMONG FELLOW INTELL-ECTUALS CONCERNED WITH THIS REGION. HE ALSO ASKED THAT DEPARTMENT CONTACT PROFESSORS KEMAL KARPAT (NOW BELIEVED TO BE IN CHICAGO AREA), SERIF MARDIN (CALIFORNIA), JACOB HUREWITZ (COLUMBIA), BERNARD LEWIS (PRINCITON), FREDERICK FRYE, RICHARD FALK, WALTER WEIKER, AND FIRUZ AHMET (BERKELEY).

5. WE MENTIONED QUESTION OF CALLS ON POLITICAL FIGURES IN WASH-INGTON, AND ULMAN SAID ECEVIT WOULD DEPEND ENTIRELY ON DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE AS TO WHO HE SHOULD SEE. ECEVIT HOPES VERY MUCH TO BE ABLE TO CALL ON SECRETARY. ULMAN MENTIONED THAT ECEVIT HAD MET DEFENSE SECRETARY RUMSFELD AT BILDERBERG CONFERENCE AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH HIM AGAIN.

6. WE OBSERVED THAT U.S. JOURNALISTS COULD BE EXPECTED TO SUBJECT ECEVIT TO DIFFICULT QUESTIONS, AND ULMAN SAID ECEVIT WAS PRE-PARED FOR THAT, HAVING BEEN A JOURNALIST HIMSELF. ULMAN SAID PRESS EXPOSURE WAS DESIRABLE, AND THAT ECEVIT WOULD RELY ON DEPARTMENT TO ARRANGE IT.

7. ULMAN NOTED THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD SOME DOUBTS ABOUT NEW YORK SEGMENT OF TRIP BECAUSE OF WHATHE CONSIDERED GREATER SECURITY PROBLEM IN NEWYORK,BUT THATHE ASSUMED DEPARTMENT HAD EVALUATED SECURITY PROBLEM AND THAT VISIT WAS "A CALCULATED RISK". COMMENT: WE BELIEVE ASSUMPTION SHOULD BE MADE THAT ECEVIT COULD WELL BE TARGET FOR GREEK-AMERICAN AND ARMENIAN GROUPS OR INDIVIUDALS THROUGHOUT HIS CFBC, AND WE URGE CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS BE GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION.

8. ULMAN RECONFIRMED THAT ECEVIT WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, BY ULMAN, AND BY DR. ORHAN KOLOGLU, RPP FOREIGN RELATIONS COUNSELOR (KOLOGLU PROBABLY WILL TRAVEL IN ADVANCE TO HELP WITH ARRANGEMENTS).

9. AS SUGGESTED REFTTEL, EMBASSY CAN MAKE AVAILABLE \$750 FROM IVP

FUNDS FOR LOCAL TRAVLE.
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